

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1 to 5 and 12 to 26 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, amend Claims 6 and 8, and add new Claims 27 to 41 as shown below. The claims, as pending in the subject application, now read as follows:

1. to 5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently amended) A print control apparatus for controlling a printing apparatus to print, comprising:

a spooler that saves data to be printed together with the designated number of sets of copies; and

a spool file manager that checks if a print instruction is a test print instruction, that changes the number of sets of copies to 1 when the print instruction is the test print instruction, and outputs the data saved in the spooler to the printing apparatus together with the number of sets of copies to be printed in response to the print instruction for printing at the print apparatus.

7. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein when the print instruction is not the test print instruction, said spool file manager deletes the output data from said spooler.

8. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein when the print instruction is [[not]] the test print instruction, said spool file manager decreases the number of sets of copies output in a test print process from the designated number of sets of copies after said spool file manager outputs the data.

9. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the data stored in said spooler is intermediate data before being converted into a format to be output to the printing apparatus, and when the print instruction is the test print instruction, said spool file manager changes a setup associated with the data saved in said spooler after said spool file manager outputs the data.

10. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said spool file manager changes the number of sets of copies associated with the data saved in said spooler after said spool file manager outputs the data when the print instruction is the test print instruction, and resets the number of sets of copies to the designated number of sets of copies when the print instruction is not the test print instruction and when the number of sets of copies has been changed.

11. (Original) A print system which is constructed by connecting a print control apparatus of claim 6 and a printing apparatus and prints based on data output from output step of said print control apparatus.

12. to 26. (Canceled)

27. (New) A print control apparatus for controlling a printing apparatus to print, comprising:

spooling means for saving data to be printed together with the designated number of sets of copies; and

spool file managing means for checking if a print instruction is a test print instruction, changing the number of sets of copies to 1 when the print instruction is the test print instruction, and outputting the data saved in the spooling means together with the number of sets of copies to be printed in response to the print instruction for printing at the print apparatus.

28. (New) The apparatus according to claim 27, wherein when the print instruction is not the test print instruction, said spool file managing means deletes the output data from said spooling means.

29. (New) The apparatus according to claim 27, wherein when the print instruction is the test print instruction, said spool file managing means decreases the number of sets of copies output in a test print process from the designated number of sets of copies after said spool file managing means outputs the data.

30. (New) The apparatus according to claim 27, wherein the data stored in said spooling means is intermediate data before being converted into a format to be output to the printing apparatus, and when the print instruction is the test print instruction, said

spool file managing means changes a setup associated with the data saved by said spooling means after said spool file managing means outputs the data.

31. (New) The apparatus according to claim 30, wherein said spool file managing means changes the number of sets of copies associated with the data saved by said spooling means after said spool file managing means outputs the data when the print instruction is the test print instruction, and resets the number of sets of copies to the designated number of sets of copies when the print instruction is not the test print instruction and when the number of sets of copies has been changed.

32. (New) A print control method of controlling a printing apparatus to print, comprising:

a saving step of saving data to be printed together with the designated number of sets of copies in a spool file;

a spool file managing step of checking if a print instruction is a test print instruction, changing the number of sets of copies to 1 when the print instruction is the test print instruction, and outputting the data saved in the spool file together with the number of sets of copies to be printed in response to the print instruction for printing at the print apparatus.

33. (New) The method according to claim 32, wherein said spool file managing step further includes a step of deleting the output data from the spool file when the print instruction is not the test print instruction.

34. (New) The method according to claim 32, wherein said spool file managing step further includes a step of, when the print instruction is the test print instruction, decreasing the number of sets of copies output in a test print process from the designated number of sets of copies after the data is output in said spool file managing step.

35. (New) The method according to claim 32, wherein the data stored in the spool file is intermediate data before being converted into a format to be output to the printing apparatus, and

wherein said spool file managing step further includes a step of, when the print instruction is the test print instruction, changing a setup associated with the data saved in the spool file after the data is output in said spool file managing step.

36. (New) The method according to claim 35, wherein said spool file managing step further includes a step of changing the number of sets of copies associated with the data saved in the spool file after outputting the data saved in the spool file together with the number of sets of copies to be printed when the print instruction is the test print instruction, and a step of resetting the number of sets of copies to the designated number of sets of copies when the print instruction is not the test print instruction and when the number of sets of copies has been changed.

37. (New) A computer program embodied in a computer readable storage medium for controlling a printing apparatus to print, comprising:

a saving procedure code means for saving data to be printed together with the designated number of sets of copies in a spool file; and

a spool file managing procedure code means for checking if a print instruction is a test print instruction, changing the number of sets of copies to 1 when the print instruction is the test print instruction, and outputting the data saved in the spool file together with the number of sets of copies to be printed in response to the print instruction for printing at the print apparatus.

38. (New) The program according to claim 37, wherein said spool file managing procedure code means further includes a step of deleting the output data from the spool file when the print instruction is not the test print instruction.

39. (New) The program according to claim 37, wherein, when the print instruction is the test print instruction, said spool file managing procedure code means further includes a step of decreasing the number of sets of copies output in a test print process from the designated number of sets of copies after the data saved in the spool file is output by said spool file managing procedure code means.

40. (New) The method according to claim 37, wherein the data stored in the spool file is intermediate data before being converted into a format to be output to the printing apparatus, and

wherein said spool file managing procedure code means further includes a step of, when the print instruction is the test print instruction, changing a setup associated with the data saved in the spool file after the data saved in the spool file is output by said spool file managing procedure code means.

41. (New) The program according to claim 35, wherein said spool file managing code means further includes a step of changing the number of sets of copies associated with the data saved in the spool file after the data saved in the spool file is output when the print instruction is the test print instruction, and a step of resetting the number of sets of copies to the designated number of sets of copies when the print instruction is not the test print instruction and when the number of sets of copies has been changed.